NEWS RELEASE North Olympic Library System<br>2210 South Peabody Street<br>Port Angeles, WA 98362

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: January I3, 2023<br>Contact: Charlotte McGrew, Youth Services Librarian 360.4I7.8500 x7766; CMcGrew@nols.org<br>Re: New! Family Conversation Kits<br>Attached: FamilyConversationKits.jpg

The North Olympic Library System (NOLS) has developed a series of Family Conversation Kits that encourage middle grade readers (approximate ages $8-12$ ) and their families to explore the topics of "Identity and Self-Love," "Building Community," and "Justice and Activism," through reading and talking about books together. Each kit contains four different books about the topic, discussion questions, and a list of activities for further exploration. Learn more and place a hold on a kit today at www.nols.org/kits.

Reading fiction builds empathy and allows kids to explore their understanding of themselves and the world around them. Reading together and having open conversations about complex topics at a time when young people are beginning to develop independence can help to establish a strong foundation for a trusting relationship as kids enter their tween and teenage years.

According to the American Academy of Pediatrics, by age 12 many children have become set in their beliefs, making the years leading up to middle school a significant time for caregivers to talk with them about topics like bias, diversity, racism, and self-love. These conversations help young people know the adults in their lives are a trusted resource for information and a sounding board when they have questions in the future. The Family Conversation Kits are one tool that families can use to kick-start important discussions.

For additional information, call 360.417 .8500 , send an email to youth@nols.org, or visit www.nols.org.


Newly released Family Conversation Kits are designed by NOLS Youth Services Librarians for kids (suggested ages 8-I 2) and their families.

